



Britannia United Church

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Meditation: "All of the places of our lives are sanctuaries; some of them just happen to have steeples. And all of the people in our lives are saints; it is just that some of them have day jobs and most will never have feast days named for them." - Robert Benson

Welcome: to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing. Please speak to our sound technician. Please join in the reading if it is **bold** and *italic*. Coffee and Tea are available at the back of the church, after the service.

We Gather in God's Name

Introit: Holy Spirit, Hear Us (377)

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

With thanksgiving on my tongue,
I sing praise for the feet of the saints
***who walked this path long before me
who pointed out this path to me
who cleared the path with me.***

With thanksgiving on my tongue,
I sing praise for the wisdom of the saints
***who shared their vision of God's ways
who lived faithfully by God's ways
who loved God all the way.***

With thanksgiving on my tongue,
I sing praise for the cloaks of the saints
***that sheltered my weary soul from the dust
that marked my life for a new adventure
that gave me some flair for the dance.***

With thanksgiving on your tongue,

now sing praise for the voices of the saints
who named God within you
who evoked God from you
who gave God to you.

Let us sing, with thanksgiving and with praise!

Hymn: Shall We Gather At the River (710)

Opening Prayer:

Blessed are those who love as God loves,

May we be the hands and heart and voice of Christ.

Blessed are those who show God 's love,
to neighbours and strangers, in equal measure.

May we be the hands and heart and voice of Christ.

Blessed are those who live God's love;

Saints of yesterday and today

May we be the hands and heart and voice of Christ.

Blessed are those who love as God loves,

May we be the hands and heart and voice of Christ.

Amen

Anthem: Blest Are They

Theme Presentation

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading: Matthew 23:1-12 (NT, pg 25, Dori Jensen)

Message: The Making of a Saint

* **A Prayer for the Quiet Saints**

Thank you, God for the selfless giving of time.

For those often quiet saints who do not argue their theology loudly
engage in lengthy debates over complex doctrinal issues
or make their presence felt within the hallowed space
of Church Council meetings

but simply get on with doing the business
visiting the sick, the aged and the lonely

a shoulder to cry on,
a listening ear
and the reassurance of one who cares.
Thank you, God for all those quiet saints
who live their faith through their lives
in a world that often forgets
that you were never too busy to listen
never too busy to minister to needs
never too engrossed in work
to bring hope and wholeness into lives.
Thank you, God, for your quiet saints. **Amen**

Hymn: We Are Pilgrims On a Journey (595)

We Respond to God

Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

* **Doxology**: (541)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

* **Offertory Prayer**:

As we have been blessed,
***so may we be a blessing,
in Jesus' name, amen.***

* **Hymn**:

Oh, when the saints go marching in,
Oh, when the saints go marching in;
Lord, I want to be in that number,
When the saints go marching in.

(2) Oh, when they crown Him Lord of all...

(3) Oh, when the revelation comes...

(4) Oh, when the saints go marching in...

* **Commissioning Prayer:**

We praise and bless you, God of Life.

Bless us with your presence each day of our lives.

We have seen you and have felt your presence
in the history of your people.

***God, be present in our history,
in our communities
and be part of our lives.***

With love and mercy, you have cared, led,
inspired and sustained
your daughters and sons in all generations.

***Shine within us, inspire us,
use us to make visible your peace, justice and truth.***

You, who are holy for all eternity
sanctify our lives with your blessing.

* **Sung Response:** For All the Saints (705, verses 1 and 3)

Postlude